

Message Text

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63
ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 COME-00 EB-07 AID-05

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 L-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00 OIC-02

SAM-01 /054 W
----- 098102

R 191714Z FEB 75
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 827
INFO AMEMBASSY BERN
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY MEXICO

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PASSPARKER, DEPT OF COMMERCE (USTS)

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: AORG OCON WTO
SUBJECT: MADRID CHOSEN AS SITE OF FIRST WTO ASSEMBLY; TENTATIVE
DATES: MAY 12-31

REF: STATE 34018

1. WTO SYG LONATI INFORMED MISSION OFFICER THAT MAJORITY OF WTO MEMBERS CONSULTED --BOTH IN WRITING AND IN PERSON--SINCE JANUARY FAVORED MADRID AS SITE OF FIRST WTO ASSEMBLY AND THAT HE HAD SO INFORMED BOTH THE SPANISH AND MEXICAN MISSIONS HERE ON FEB 19.

2. SPANISH STATED THAT EARLIERST DATE THEY COULD OFFER TO HOST ASSEMBLY WOULD BE MAY 12. ACCORDINGLY LONAIT IS ASKING SPANISH TO PREPARE FOR TWO WEEK CONFERENCE BEGINNING MAY 12 WITH OPTION OF PROLONGATION FOR A THIRD WEEK.

3. LONATI SAID SPANISH PROMISED TO CONFIRM ABOVE DATES SHORTLY AND IN MEANWHILE HE IS GOING AHEAD WITH PREPARATIONS FOR CONVENING ASSEMBLY.

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4. MISSION OFFICER, AS PER REFTEL, REITERATED US REGRET THAT SYG HAD BEEN UNABLE TO FOLLOW STATUTORY PROVISION THAT GENERAL ASSEMBLY BE HELD IN GENEVA AND STATED USG WAS NEUTRAL VIS-A-VIS CHOICE OF EITHER MEXICO CITY OR MADIRD AS SITE FOR FIRST ASSEMBLY. MISSION OFFICER ALSO CONVEYED THIS NEUTRALITY RE ASSEMBLY SITE TO OTHER GENEVA MISSIONS (FRG, CANADA) THAT ENQUIRED RE US POSITION ON SUBJECT.

5. COMMENT: USG MUST NOW DECIDE WHETHER IT INTENDS TO UTILIZE PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE 42 OF WTO STATUTES IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN FUNDAMENTAL DECISION MAKING OF FIRST ASSEMBLY.

DALE

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